

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO†

EXCERPTS FROM OUR STATE MEDICAL JOURNAL

Vol. X, No. 12, December, 1912

From Some Editorial Notes:

Tenth Volume.—With this issue the tenth volume of your *Journal* is closed and another year ended. Whether the net result of the year of work and of publication be good or bad, it is finished and put away with the things that have been. The *Journal*, this last year, has printed more matter, more original papers and, we think, better papers than in any previous year. As nearly everything that we published is produced by California physicians, the *Journal*, to a large extent, reflects the productivity and the value of the product of California doctors. The better your work and the more carefully you prepare your papers the better will be the *Journal* and the more credit will it reflect upon the medical profession of California and its state organization. . . .

Notable Meeting.—A meeting of the secretaries of state medical organizations was held in Chicago, October 23 and 24, 1912, that was in many ways the most remarkable medical meeting ever held. . . .

Medical Defense.—Nearly every state medical organization that has a medical defense feature has noted, in the last year or year and a half, a marked increase in the number of alleged malpractice suits that are being brought against physicians. . . .

The same thing is as true in California as it is in New York or Kentucky; malpractice suits are rapidly increasing in number. Is it another expression of the feeling of antagonism to all things medical? Is it another evidence of the general feeling of unrest, of rebellion against any sort of control or supervision, and especially intellectual or scientific control? It would seem so. . . .

Nobel Prize.—It is a pleasure to note that the Nobel Prize, amounting to some \$39,000, has recently been awarded to Dr. Alexis Carrel of the Rockefeller Institute for his remarkable work in connection with the suture of vessels and the transplantation of organs and tissue. . . .

From an Article on "The Relation of Pain, Especially Backache, to Joint Strain, or the Relation of Pain to Mechanics" by S. J. Hunkin, M.D., San Francisco.—Allow me to prologue and say that it is my conviction that 33½ per cent of all pain coming to suffering humanity: of all pain that human kind is heir to, is directly mechanical: that is, it is due to gross mechanical causes—directly and evidently so, and can be relieved, permanently and directly, only by mechanical procedures. Also when the problem is not thus approached, the patient has to be "doped," while nature gropes after the mechanical efficiency, and seeks the repose which comes after it is found. The problem is voiced always, and whenever the patient ceaselessly moans and tosses, and complains that he cannot find a comfortable position: and comparative relief from mechanical stress is secured, whenever he asks to be left alone, and deprecates or refuses to be disturbed or moved. . . .

From an Article on "Chilblains" by Ernest Dwight Chipman, M.D., San Francisco.—The chilblain is a seasonal dermatosis. Quite as much as winter itch or recurring summer eruption, it is limited by the calendar. It comes with the earliest frosts of autumn and fades away with the

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†This column strives to mirror the work and aims of colleagues who bore the brunt of Association work some twenty-five years ago. It is hoped that such presentation will be of interest to both old and new members.

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA†

By CHARLES B. PINKHAM, M.D.
Secretary-Treasurer

Board Proceedings

At the annual meeting of the Board of Medical Examiners held at the State Capitol, Sacramento, October 18 to 21, the following officers of the Board of Medical Examiners were reelected: William R. Molony, Sr., M.D., Los Angeles, president; Clark L. Abbott, M.D., Oakland, vice-president; Charles B. Pinkham, M.D., San Francisco, secretary-treasurer.

Additional rules and regulations regarding graduates of foreign medical schools were adopted, including the approval of printed forms to be made out and filed by such graduates, as well as by hospitals where graduates of foreign medical schools complete the internship required under the Business and Professions Code.

At this meeting, the following changes in licensure status were made:

Harry Asher, licensed chiropodist, San Francisco, license revoked on October 19, based on illegal prescribing of narcotics.

Ralph A. Behrend, M.D., Los Angeles, license revoked on October 19, based on adjudication of insanity.

Samuel D. Burgeson, Jr., M.D., Los Angeles, alleged illegal operation, license revoked on October 19.

Frederick N. Folsom, M.D., Santa Rosa, narcotic conviction, license revoked on October 19.

Claude C. Long, M.D., San Francisco, recently convicted in San Francisco of illegal operation, license revoked on October 19.

Thomas O. Luckett, M.D., El Centro, recently sentenced to San Quentin Prison, following his conviction of an illegal operation, license revoked on October 19.

William F. Meyer, M.D., San Diego, license revoked on October 19, based on adjudication of insanity.

Harold E. Morrison, M.D., formerly of San Luis Obispo, now of Reno, Nevada, license revoked on October 19, based on adjudication of insanity.

E. Blanche Ramer, M.D., San Diego, license revoked on October 20, based on charges of alleged illegal operation.

Eugene Settles, M.D., San Diego, license revoked on October 19, based on alleged narcotic addiction.

Hugo Wahl, M.D., San Francisco, found guilty of a charge of aiding and abetting an unlicensed practitioner, was on October 21 placed on probation for a period of three years.

The license of Leonard R. Chapman, M.D., was revoked on October, 1935, was restored on October, 1937, and he was placed on probation for a period of three years.

News

"Headed by Dr. Leo Eloesser, noted San Francisco physician, the staff of a mobile hospital unit, with four American doctors, today sailed from New York aboard the *Queen Mary* for Spain. . . . Accompanying Doctor Eloesser were Dr. Edward K. Barsky, New York, head of nine American hospitals in the Spanish war area, Dr. Edwin Weisfield, Seattle, and Dr. Charlton Purviance, Fairfield, California." (San Francisco *News*, November 4, 1937.)

"Deeply stirred by the many deaths caused by the distribution of an elixir of sulfanilamide in the United States, the California League of Women Voters is issuing a call to its local leagues to urge on their representatives in Congress enactment of a stronger Federal Food and Drugs Act that would avert such tragedies. 'However innocent the producers and distributors, this experience tragically points to the need for Federal legislation insuring a governmental check on such products as the elixir of sulfanilamide before they are distributed to a helpless public,' said Mrs. Voss.

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†The office addresses of the California State Board of Medical Examiners are printed in the roster on advertising page 6.